

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 18873 141133Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SAA-01 SES-02 SSM-03 SSC-01  
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
DODE-00 PA-01 /069 W  
-----087026 141826Z /42

R 141129Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2555  
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

S E C R E T CAIRO 18873

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT EG  
SUBJECT: SADAT AS TEMPORARY PRIME MINISTER

REF: CAIRO 18299

1. THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION AS TO WHETHER SADAT, IN HIS CAPACITY AS HEAD OF THE NEW NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WILL BEFORE LONG ASSUME THE PRIME MINISTRY PORTFOLIO. VIEWS ARE SHARPLY DIVIDED AS TO WHETHER HE SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT DO SO. SOME BELIEVE THAT HIS ASSUMPTION OF THE PRIME MINISTRY WOULD HELP PROJECT THE IMPRESSION OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION WHICH REQUIRED THIS ACTION AND WOULD THEREFORE GALVANIZE THE SLUGGISH BUREAUCRACY TO GREATER EFFORTS. OTHERS ARE SKEPTICAL THAT ANYTHING APPRECIABLE CAN BE DONE WITH THE BUREAUCRACY AND WARN THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL LOSE HIS MINISTERIAL "BUFFER" IF HE DECIDES TO HEAD THE CABINET HIMSELF. CABINET SHORTCOMINGS WILL THEN BE ATTRIBUTED DIRECTLY TO HIM.

2. ASKED WHETHER HE BELIEVES SADAT WILL ASSUME THE PRIME MINISTRY, VP MUBARAK (WHO IS JOINING THE PRESIDENT'S NEW PARTY) TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT THIS IS STILL BEING  
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DEBATED. HE EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT SADAT WILL ASSUME THE PRIME MINISTRY FOR A MONTH OR TWO AND WILL THEREAFTER TURN IT OVER TO ONE OF HIS PRINCIPAL DEPUTIES.

3. FORMER PRIMIN ALI HIGAZI, WHO IS ALSO CONSIDERING ASSOCIATING HIMSELF WITH THE PRESIDENT'S NEW PARTY, EXPRESSED A SIMILAR VIEW TO THE AMBASSADOR A FEW EVENINGS

AGO. HE SPECULATED THAT WHEN AND IF SADAT DECIDES TO  
SHED THE PRIME MINISTERIAL MANTLE, FORMER ASU SECRETARY  
GENERAL MUSTAPHA KHALIL SEEMS TO BE THE FRONT RUNNER TO  
ASSUME THE PRIME MINISTERIAL OFFICE. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER, GOVERNMENT REFORM, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CAIRO18873  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780332-0162  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 1741152  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SADAT AS TEMPORARY PRIME MINISTER  
**TAGS:** PINT, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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